

IN THE DRAWINGS:

In Fig. 1, add a schematic representation of a heating device within the auxiliary drying air supply 90 and the associated designating line and numeral 91 as shown in the Replacement Sheet submitted herewith.

In Fig. 3, add the designating numeral 91 and associated designating line as shown in the Replacement Sheet submitted herewith.

REMARKS:

Before entry of this Amendment A, claims 28-53 were pending in the application. Claims 1-27 have been previously cancelled. After entry of this Amendment A, claims 29-42 and 44-53 remain pending under examination, and claims 1 – 28 and 43 are canceled. The number of total claims has not been increased, and the number of independent claims has not been increased beyond the number for which payment previously had been made.

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's Action of March 10, 2009, and the references cited therein. The following is a brief summary of the Action. The Examiner objected to the disclosure because of informalities. A substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b) was required. The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). Claims 28, 29, 38-40, 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 1059106 (Nicast). Claim 41 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 1059106 (Nicast). Claims 30-37, 43 and 45-53 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended the original specification by submitting herewith a substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b). Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments to the original specification. A marked-up copy of the specification showing the changes is provided for the Examiner's convenience.

In Fig. 1, within the auxiliary drying air supply 90, applicants have added a schematic representation of a heating device and the associated designating line and numeral 91 as shown in the Replacement Sheet submitted herewith and in accordance with the original disclosure at page 7, line 14 through page 8, line 1 and the original Fig. 1. In Fig. 3, the designating numeral 41 and associated designating line have been added in accordance with the original disclosure at page 10, lines 11 – 18 as shown in the Replacement Sheet submitted herewith. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments to Figs. 1 and 3.

For the reasons explained below, applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 29, 38-40, 42 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nicast (EP 1059106).

In its original form, claim 30 was indicated to be allowable upon removal of its dependence on a rejected base claim. With one exception, applicants have rendered claim 30 into independent format. That exception is the omission of the language placing the device for nanofibres storage in front of the charging electrode in the space between the charging electrode and the counter electrode. The inclusion of such language would fail to encompass the embodiment shown in Fig. 2 for example. Applicants also canceled claim 28 and made claim 29 depend on claim 30, which applicants respectfully submit continues to be allowable and so renders allowable the claims dependent on claim 30.

Applicants have amended claim 38 to include the limitations of claim 43, which was indicated to be allowable upon removal of its dependence on a rejected base claim.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 38 and claims dependent thereon are now allowable.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 29, 38-40, 42 and 44 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Nicast (EP 1059106).

For the reasons explained below, applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 41 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicast.

Claim 41 now depends on an allowable claim 38. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 41 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nicast.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of claims 29 – 42 and 44 – 53, as presented herein, and submit that these claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue.

If any fee or extension of time is required to obtain entry of this Amendment, the undersigned hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant any necessary time extension and authorizes charging Deposit Account No. 04-1403 for any such fee not submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

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